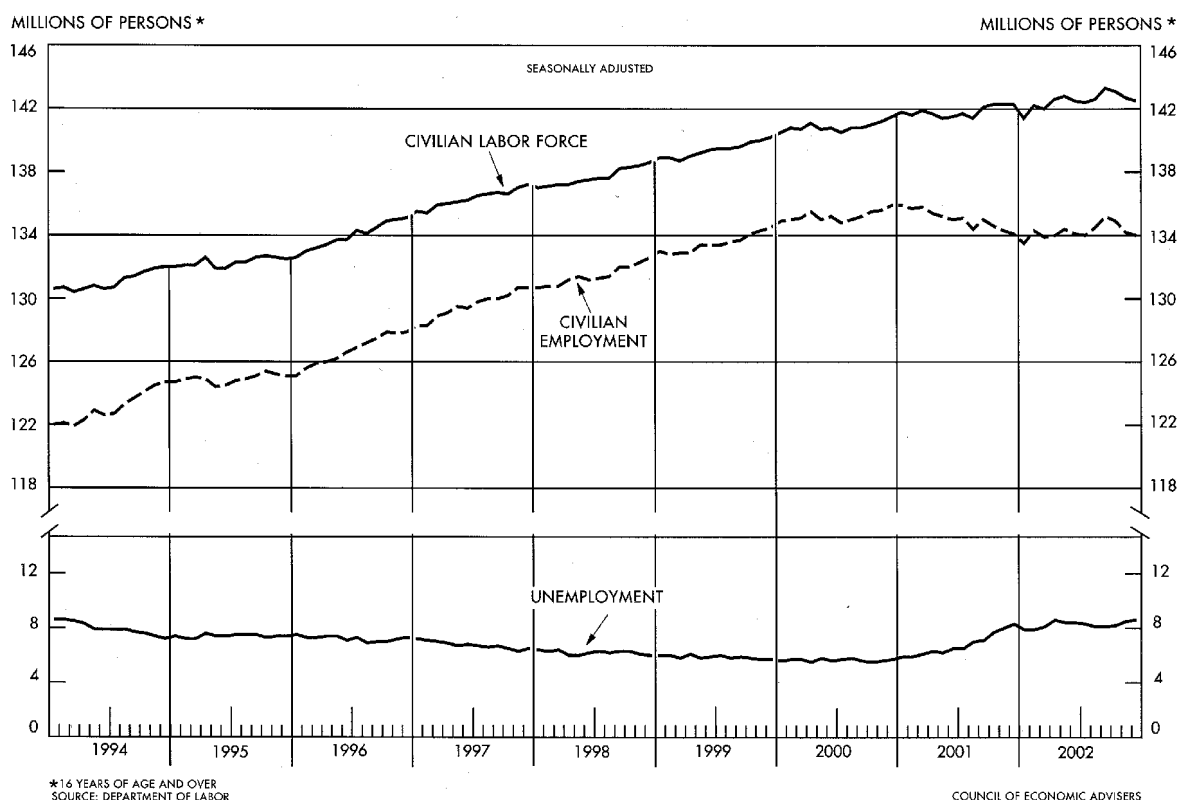


EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WAGES

STATUS OF THE LABOR FORCE

In December, employment fell by 273,000, and unemployment rose by 82,000.



[Thousands of persons 16 years of age and over, except as noted; monthly data seasonally adjusted except as noted by NSA]

Period	Civilian noninstitutional population NSA	Civilian labor force	Civilian employment				Unemployment		Not in labor force	Percent ²		
			Total	Agricultural	Nonagricultural		Total	15 weeks and over		Labor force participation rate	Employment/ population ratio	Unemployment rate
					Total	Part time for economic reasons ¹						
1993	194,838	129,200	120,259	3,115	117,144	6,230	8,940	3,094	65,638	66.3	61.7	6.9
1994 ³	196,814	131,056	123,060	3,409	119,651	4,414	7,996	2,860	65,758	66.6	62.5	6.1
1995	198,584	132,304	124,900	3,440	121,460	4,279	7,404	2,363	66,280	66.6	62.9	5.6
1996	200,591	133,943	126,708	3,443	123,264	4,123	7,236	2,316	66,647	66.8	63.2	5.4
1997 ⁴	203,133	136,297	129,558	3,399	126,159	3,879	6,739	2,062	66,837	67.1	63.8	4.9
1998 ⁴	205,220	137,673	131,463	3,378	128,085	3,501	6,210	1,637	67,547	67.1	64.1	4.5
1999 ⁴	207,753	139,368	133,488	3,281	130,207	3,189	5,880	1,480	68,385	67.1	64.3	4.2
2000 ⁴	209,699	140,863	135,208	3,305	131,903	3,045	5,655	1,309	68,836	67.2	64.5	4.0
2001	211,864	141,815	135,073	3,144	131,929	3,529	6,742	1,746	70,050	66.9	63.8	4.8
2002	213,977	142,535	134,269	3,248	131,020	3,959	8,266	2,861	71,442	66.6	62.7	5.8
2001: Dec	212,927	142,314	134,055	3,246	130,809	4,119	8,259	2,410	70,613	66.8	63.0	5.8
2002: Jan	213,089	141,390	133,468	3,273	130,195	3,781	7,922	2,546	71,699	66.4	62.6	5.6
Feb	213,206	142,211	134,319	3,246	131,073	3,998	7,891	2,561	70,995	66.7	63.0	5.5
Mar	213,334	142,005	133,894	3,126	130,768	3,848	8,111	2,688	71,329	66.6	62.8	5.7
Apr	213,492	142,570	133,976	3,154	130,823	4,009	8,594	2,854	70,922	66.8	62.8	6.0
May	213,658	142,769	134,417	3,097	131,320	3,818	8,351	2,952	70,889	66.8	62.9	5.8
June	213,842	142,476	134,053	3,110	130,942	3,758	8,424	3,103	71,366	66.6	62.7	5.9
July	214,023	142,390	134,045	3,282	130,763	3,949	8,345	2,883	71,633	66.5	62.6	5.9
Aug	214,225	142,616	134,474	3,188	131,286	4,060	8,142	2,783	71,609	66.6	62.8	5.7
Sept	214,429	143,277	135,185	3,298	131,887	4,068	8,092	2,900	71,152	66.8	63.0	5.6
Oct	214,643	143,123	134,914	3,525	131,389	4,148	8,209	2,980	71,519	66.7	62.9	5.7
Nov	214,819	142,733	134,225	3,357	130,867	4,032	8,508	3,022	72,087	66.4	62.5	6.0
Dec	214,968	142,542	133,952	3,311	130,640	3,928	8,590	3,225	72,425	66.3	62.3	6.0

¹ Persons at work. Economic reasons include slack work, material shortages, inability to find fulltime work, etc.

² Civilian labor force (or employment) as percent of civilian noninstitutional population; and unemployment as percent of civilian labor force.

³ Data beginning January 1994 are not directly comparable with data for earlier periods because of a major redesign of the household survey questionnaire.

⁴ Not strictly comparable with earlier data.

NOTE.—See *Employment and Earnings* for details on breaks in series.

Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.